

Andrew Jackson to Christopher Rankin, June 19, 1820, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO CHRISTOPHER RANKIN.1

1 Copy. Rankin was M. C. from Mississippi 1819–1826.

Nashville, June 19, 1820.

Sir, On my return to this place last evening from a tour to the south and South East, I received your letter of the 16th May last, requesting me in the name of the representation from the State of Mississippi, to accept the appointment of Commissioner, to treat with the Choctaw Indians. at the same time I also received a request from Mr. Monroe. I had determined to have nothing more to do with Indian treaties. But Sir thus solicited, both by the President and the representation of the state of Mississippi, unanimously, I must forego that determination and my own private feelings—for I owe a debt of gratitude to the people of your state and their late Governor, for the prompt and efficient support afforded me, in our late struggle with Great Britain, and feel it a duty to serve them, whenever it is in my power to do so. I will therefore accept the appointment. It affords me much pleasure to learn that my friend Genl. Hinds will be associated with me in this highly important business.

I have the Honor to be very resp'y yr. ob' svt.